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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES.

Congratulating the Tampa Bay Lightning for winning the 2021 Stanley
Cup Final.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. CASTOR of Florida submitted the following resolution; which was referred
to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Congratulating the Tampa Bay Lightning for winning the
2021 Stanley Cup Final.

Whereas, on July 7, 2021, the Tampa Bay Lightning won
the 2021 National Hockey League Stanley Cup Final at
Amalie Arena in Tampa;

Whereas back-to-back years, the Lightning repeat as Stanley
Cup champs, this time, at home in a 9-month span;

Whereas the Lightning won a second straight Stanley Cup
Wednesday night with a 1–0 victory in Game 5 against
the Canadiens to seal a 4–1 series win and made Tampa
Bay just the second team since the salary cap era began
in 2005–2006 to win back-to-back Stanley Cups, joining
the 2016–2017 Pittsburgh Penguins;

Whereas Pat Maroon became the first player in nearly 40 years to win the Cup in three consecutive seasons;

Whereas no big-time team has ever gone back-to-back in Tampa Bay like the Lightning have done;

Whereas the Lightning are third in the National Hockey League (NHL) in regular-season victories and are now one of four teams to have won two Stanley Cups in that time;

Whereas the Lightning rebounded from a Game 4 loss in Montreal, making them the first team to win the Cup on home ice since 2015;

Whereas Andrei Vasilevskiy ended the season with his record fifth straight series-clinching shutout in the playoffs;

Whereas Vasilevskiy, who made 22 saves in the victory, won the Conn Smythe Trophy as the postseason's most valuable player, a rarity for a goaltender;

Whereas rookie forward Ross Colton and defenseman David Savard, acquired at the trade deadline, connected for the game's only goal with 6:33 left in the second period;

Whereas the Lightning won a puck battle against the near boards, and the puck landed with Savard along the far side, and once the Lightning won possession, Colton won a joust with Canadiens defenseman Joel Edmundson for positioning in front of the net, and he redirected Savard's pass through traffic into the back of the net;

Whereas Vasilevskiy claimed the postseason Most Valuable Player award Wednesday night after the Lightning's 1-0 win over the Montreal Canadiens, repeating as Stanley Cup champions, becoming the first goaltender born outside of North America and the third Russian to win the

honor, and the third goalie in NHL history to post multiple shutouts in Stanley Cup clinching games;

Whereas Vasilevskiy is also the first goaltender since the Canadiens' Ken Dryden to play in every playoff game en route to back-to-back Stanley Cups (1977–1978);

Whereas Vasilevskiy becomes the 16th goalie to win the award and the first Lightning goaltender to do so;

Whereas the Lightning have not lost back-to-back games at any point over their last two playoff runs, moving to 14–0 on Wednesday following the Game 4 overtime loss in Montreal;

Whereas Tampa Bay became the eighth franchise in NHL history to win back-to-back Stanley Cups and only the second this century (joining the 2015–2016 and 2016–2017 Penguins), and the quirky scheduling from the coronavirus pandemic makes the Lightning's accomplishment even more noteworthy: They hoisted the Cup twice in a 10-month span;

Whereas first-line mate Brayden Point had a playoff-high 14 goals and scored in 9 consecutive games;

Whereas Conn Smythe winner Vasilevskiy went head-to-head with Carey Price and proved once and for all that he is the best goaltender in the world;

Whereas Victor Hedman, last season's Conn Smythe winner, led all defensemen with 18 points;

Whereas the Lightning have dominated the NHL over the past seven seasons in ways few teams can: six playoff berths, five conference final appearances, three Stanley Cup Finals appearances, and two Cups;

Whereas defenseman Ryan McDonagh dug the puck out of a scrum along the leftside boards and passed to Savard, who skated to the right faceoff dot, and Savard sent a shot-pass into the slot for Colton, who one-timed the puck past Price to put the Lightning ahead with 6:33 to play in the second period;

Whereas Colton redirected a David Savard pass into the slot with 6:33 remaining in the second period as Tampa Bay became the first team since Chicago in 2015 to win an NHL title on home ice;

Whereas goaltender Vasilevskiy stopped all 22 shots he faced, closing out his fifth straight playoff series with a shutout;

Whereas the Lightning became the eighth franchise to repeat as champions since NHL teams became the sole competitors for the Cup in 1927 and the first since the 2016–2017 Pittsburgh Penguins;

Whereas Maroon won his third straight Cup, including last season with the Lightning and 2018–2019 with the Blues;

Whereas Vasilevskiy won the Conn Smythe Trophy, and is the first goaltender to win the award since the Kings' Jonathan Quick in 2012;

Whereas with one second-period goal by Ross Colton, Tampa Bay became the first team to clinch the Stanley Cup in back-to-back years since the Penguins did it in 2016 and 2017;

Whereas only seven other teams have accomplished the repeat feat since the NHL became the sole competitor for the Cup in 1926;

Whereas the entire roster contributed to the Stanley Cup victory: Nikita Kucherov, Andrei Vasilevskiy, Steven

Stamkos, Brayden Point, Patrick Maroon, Ross Colton, Victor Hedman, David Savard, Tyler Johnson, Ryan McDonagh, Alex Killorn, Matieu Joseph, Blake Coleman, Anthony Cirelli, Mikhail Sergachev, Yanni Gourde, Erik Černák, Curtis McElhinney, Barclay Goodrow, Luke Schenn, Marián Gáborík, Jan Rutta, Christopher Gibson, Ondřej Palát, Alex Barré-Boulet, Callan Foote, Gemel Smith, Daniel Walcott, Anders Nilsson, Mitchell Stephens, Andreas Borgman, Fredrik Claesson, Brois Katchouk, Taylor Raddysh, Spencer Martin, and Ben Thomas;

Whereas the Lightning defeated the Dallas Stars in September to win the Cup in the bubble in Edmonton, Alberta, and the franchise's only other Cup title came in 2004;

Whereas the Cup also marked a personal 3-peat for Maroon, who won with his hometown St. Louis Blues in 2019, and no NHL player had won 3 straight Cups since 1983, when 15 New York Islanders wrapped up their fourth in a row, and no player had won 3 straight Cups with 2 different teams since 1964;

Whereas, in 2021, they repeated to become the fastest team ever to bag consecutive titles, doing so by a margin of nearly 3 months;

Whereas star forward Nikita Kucherov was also a key factor down the stretch for the Lightning, and he joined Mario Lemieux as the only players to lead the NHL in points in consecutive playoffs;

Whereas Kucherov finished the 2021 postseason with 32 points as he tallied 8 goals and 24 assists after missing the entire regular season due to hip surgery; and

Whereas the Lightning forward has recorded 66 points over the past two postseasons, which is tied for fifth-most over two consecutive postseasons: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) congratulates the Tampa Bay Lightning,
3 and the loyal fans of the Tampa Bay Lightning, for
4 becoming the 2021 National Hockey League Stanley
5 Cup champions; and

6 (2) respectfully directs the Clerk of the House
7 of Representatives to transmit an enrolled copy of
8 this resolution to—

9 (A) the chairman and governor of the
10 Tampa Bay Lightning, Jeff Vinik;

11 (B) the vice president and general man-
12 ager of the Tampa Bay Lightning, Julien
13 BriseBois; and

14 (C) the head coach of the Tampa Bay
15 Lightning, Jon Cooper.